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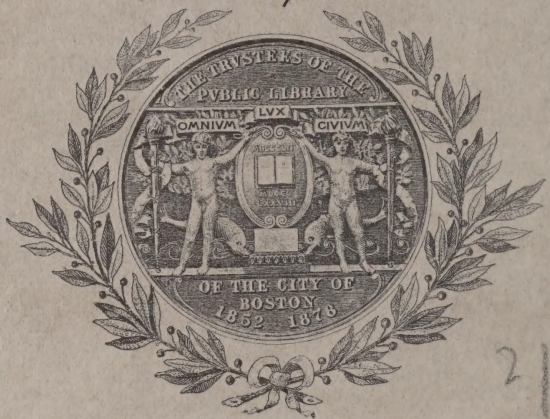

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GIVEN BY

Warren H. Colson.

Colson of Boston
—his Stamps

2237.173

Colson of Boston —his Stamps

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Warren H. Colson
184 Boylston Street
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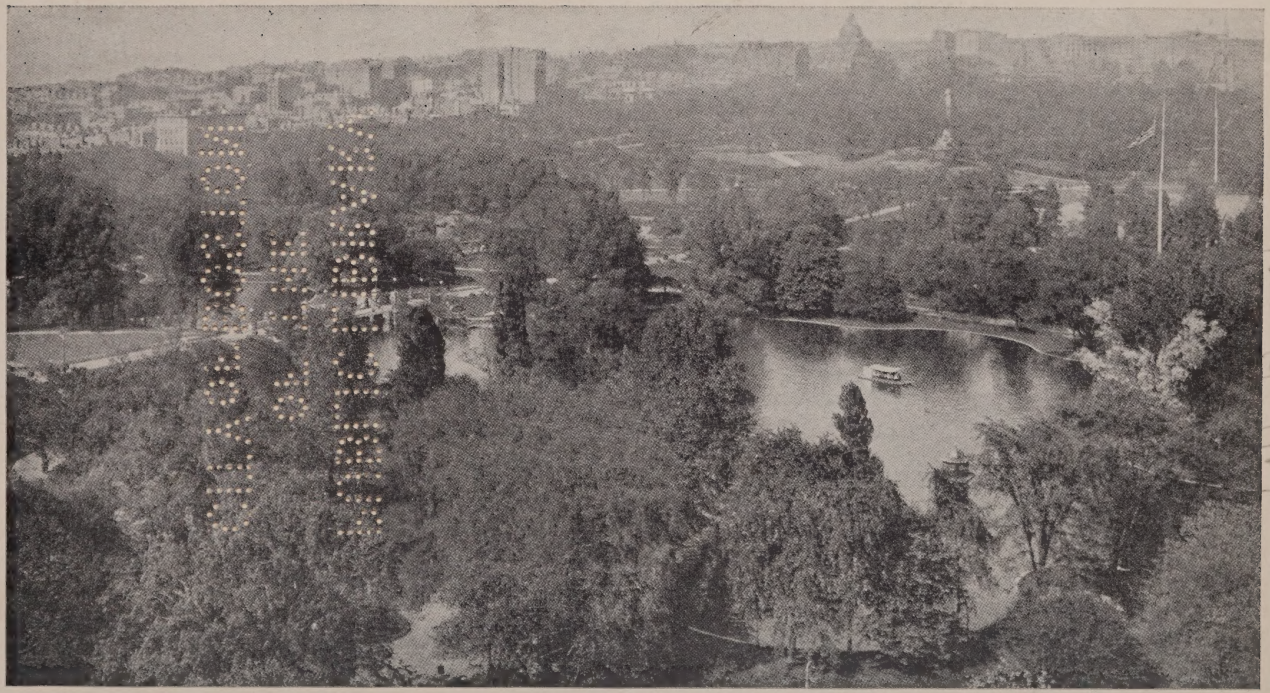
Blanchard Printing Co.
1926



Our offices overlook the Public Garden and historic Boston Common. One ceases to wonder that a business cast in such an environment should develop the world-wide reputation it bears of having the rarest and choicest stamps that exist.

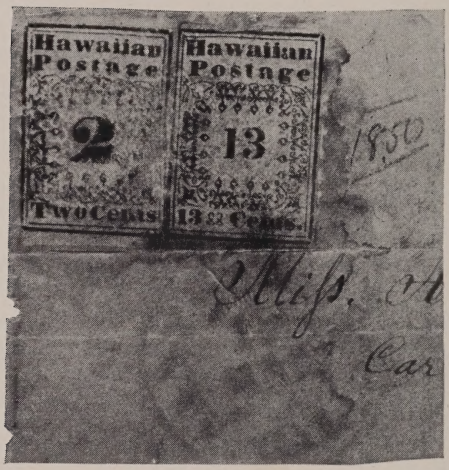
Foreword

IT would be quite impossible within the compass of this little booklet to detail all the pleasant transactions of a major sort extending over the period of thirty years during which *Colson of Boston* has consistently adhered to his determination to secure for his clients and America only the finest in rare stamps.

Travel in foreign countries—Russia in peace time, France when war was declared; England with queues waiting impatiently for assurance that they could get back to God's country, frequent revisits to England, Holland, Belgium and in fact all European countries, experiences in the beautiful Hawaian islands—"gems of the Pacific"—a multitude of visits from and to the world's most noted men of stamps—these things with many others form a vast reminiscent record which truly proves "the romance of business" but must of necessity remain untold.

Only the high lights—significant of the true catholicity of our business, can be touched on. This we have endeavored to do.

If a study of the examples produced herewith interests you and you may be stimulated to take up with us the serious consideration of any early issue, or increased knowledge is gained of this truly fascinating hobby, then we shall feel amply repaid for having had a part in the philatelic exhibition of 1926.



Hawaii, 1851-52, 2c type II and 13c type I used on small fragment. Both stamps defective and skillfully repaired but the only item known with these two values used together. This bears a red cancellation, but having been photographed through a color-screen it appears to be uncancelled. Regardless of the restoration, one connoisseur expresses the opinion that this item must be the most magnificent piece shown in the whole exhibition. See it for yourself and judge. Would YOU like to own it? It is for sale.

Colson of Boston

THE student of human nature is often bewildered by the strange fads and fancies which seize upon men in the various stages of their careers, yet if he could go behind the scenes, if he could peer into the soul of a man, or follow him about in the toil of a day, he would no doubt find much not only to excuse, but more to uphold in this modern search for something which is aside from the usual vocation, and which combines interest, novelty, and pleasure in large degree. All this is within the experience of those, who, turning aside from the cares of business, have found relief and relaxation, even an increase of power, in the pursuit of the hobbies which men follow in these later days.

This is peculiarly true of philately—a hobby to be sure, and yet a hobby which has engaged the interest of prince and peasant, king and liegeman, indeed, the greatest and lowliest of earth. That stamp collecting should so beguile the hours of the lofty and the lowly, the old and the young, is not strange to any student of the subject, for collecting in its various forms has been one of the great interests of men in all ages. It is one of the best methods extant for extending our knowledge of men in their relations to men, showing in what seems to be obscure and trivial, many things of large and permanent value.

Even the child, before life's purposes are formed, before life's work is begun, cannot escape the fascination of a pursuit which in later life may dominate the man. It is not difficult for us to remember our earliest attempts at this fascinating pursuit. Money was rarer then than it is now, and far more difficult to secure. Stamps were

rarer still, and even more difficult to make our own. Then, the size and the color had very much to do with the worth of a specimen. Surely our ideas of value were primitive to the extreme.

However, those days are gone never to return. In these later years we can but wonder at the tremendous, we might almost say revolutionary, changes that have taken place in this favorite pursuit. Today we find collectors in every walk of life, although as a rule they are found more largely among men of culture. This is inherent in the necessities of the case, as philately appeals rather to the intellectual and aesthetic than to the aggressive spirit that would dominate the outer world, but would care little for the nutrition of the inner man. And yet many collectors are so well balanced that it is possible for them to engage in the almost Titanic struggles of business, politics, and society, and still be able to appreciate the pleasures of more restful and recreative hours. Every blue book, every social register of highest standing, contains names prominent not only in society, finance and statesmanship, but also in philately. The two are very commonly found together.

Were we asked to explain why men of such high standing take up a hobby, seemingly uninteresting and valueless, we should doubtless have to reply that they find in it a very real need of their being—soothing comfort and rest for the close of the day. In a word, that it gives the mind the complete change it must have; gives the man a new live interest, when business palls, bringing with it a new lease of life and renewal of power for the larger activity of the world.

It is well within one's memory that a great lawyer speaking of philately once said: "Some years ago I was engaged on a case that required all of my powers of brain

and body for its solution. I had been studying its various complications with such unremitting ardor that it seemed almost impossible to marshal thought in anything like a logical fashion. Suddenly I realized that continued application had simply tangled a tired brain. I was on the point of giving up for the day when, happily, my eyes chanced to rest on one of the volumes of my collection. Brushing aside the legal papers with their labyrinthal complications, I took up the book and lost myself in its absorbing pages. From the beautiful franc vermilion, on past a few interesting tete-beches, I turned the pages. Rows of softly blending shades lay before me like the lines of some priceless variegated flower. The types of the Bordeaux next came to view, then a few interesting envolopes with that all-meaning inscription, '*Par ballon monte*,' with historical notes taking me back in fancy to those grim days of '70 when all Paris trembled in despair. Here indeed was relief for any man, and I found it. Gradually the heat left my brain; slowly the tense muscles relaxed; a feeling of quiet entered in where turmoil, even chaos had reigned, and soon I laid aside the book and turning once more to my problem—with head clear and brain cool—I solved it." In like manner a leading American banker spends hours of his evenings repairing diminished energy after the day's work through the pleasure gained from his collection. Here also captains of industry—men of large intellect and tremendous influence,—find an outlet for the powers not demanded entirely by their work. Here they find rest and quiet, and pleasure, not in the empty and unsatisfying life of society, but rather through the wholesome and vitalizing study of philately. Of necessity there can be but one answer to the question, "To be or not to be—A Collector."

COLLECTING was born early in the fifties when the only incentive was the desire of possession. At this early period there were practically no requirements with regard to the condition of the specimens, a fact that is well illustrated by some of the early dealers who showed stamps for the purpose of exhibition and sale, affixing them to boards by numerous tacks. In other words, during this early period, a stamp, good, bad or indifferent, was nothing more nor less than a stamp. The philatelic mind of those early years grasped but one idea—to have and to hold. Many present-day collectors are passing through this stage of thought and experience,—it is to be hoped into the light of a brighter era.

The first advance in the methods of the old-time collector came through his endeavor to secure a more lightly cancelled specimen, that he might the more easily distinguish the design. After this slight and perhaps unconscious stride toward "condition," he was no longer satisfied with the specimens of his early days. Thus the demand for stamps in better condition began.

After a few years of progress, when the more particular collectors became known as "condition cranks," they also began to discover some of the minor differences hitherto overlooked. These differences lay in perforation or in the size of watermarks. Sometimes also by the aid of secret marks, different printings were discovered. Yet granting that these minor varieties were worthy of collection, and accepting them at their full value, it is not difficult to see that the limits of the old methods were soon reached—mere possession could not long suffice any man. The point is clear when it is said, that in the main, the "old school" collector's motive was simply this—possession. The desire of acquisition is laudable—possession is

helpful—yet the interest of mere possession soon waned. Something more was needed if we were to secure from this noblest recreative hobby the interest, joy and even power that it should afford. That which is needed comes as surely as night follows day. There was no exception to the rule in the case we are considering. So today we have in place of the old school—the new.

In the "new school" which has been developing slowly during the past few years, an idea finds expression that collectors of much experience have just begun to appreciate. Today connoisseurs in every line hold as their ideal, the specimen in perfect condition. How quickly the collector of netsukis learns to separate the delicately wrought from the poorly executed pieces. How soon another, examining the coins of antiquity, delights to come upon an almost perfect specimen dating from the time of Trajan or Nero. Even when we secure our relaxation through out-of-door sport—the feeling of a well-balanced racquet—one that "fits"—what a satisfaction! And so through all the varied forms of life activity, we find perfection of form and condition to be the *sine qua non.*

But the collector of the new school goes back farther than his predecessor. The men of the older school, contented with possession, never considered the history of the various stamps for which they sought long and eagerly. Today a larger interest is added to this fascinating hobby when we remember that men of the new school are not only mindful of the delights of possession and of perfect condition, but find ever widening interest in the study of philatelic genesis and development.

How absorbing the passion for collecting becomes when first we consider the necessities of civilization, which carry us in imagination from the time of picture writing on the rocks, of signal fires on the hills, of messengers

mounted and afoot to this more complex day, when our words of warning or of greeting, of friendly fellowship or love are cared for by a strongly centralized government whose emblem, the stamp, is affixed to every message. So in a very real sense, each stamp sums up in itself the progress of the race since time began.

But not only is their great interest in those necessities which make of the stamp a most helpful adjunct to the communication of men, but we find also our interest deepening as we come to consider the stamp in the various stages of its history, from the first rude specimens to the later and more perfect illustrations of the engraver's art. In this fascinating study we may follow the birth and development of the stamp from the first rough sketch in pencil to the finished example of all that is finest and best in the philatelic art. And this is what the new school seeks to do. The new method is distinctly scientific and thus in accord with the spirit of the age. Facts are sought, not only for themselves, but that they may show the relation of the stamp under study to the history and geography of the country to which it belongs. Stamp collecting, considered thus broadly, might even lead to the acquisition of foreign languages—to a knowledge of customs—laws—as well as relations national and international, turning what began merely as a hobby into the apparatus and method for the acquirement of a liberal education. Nothing is more promising to the student of this fascinating hobby than this trend to the broader, rather than to the narrower view. Such a development should serve to arrest a certain tendency, noticeable in philately, to drift in the direction of the merely mercenary, of which we hear so much, and bring this noble art back to a more sane and aesthetic appraisal of values. It is always possible to

hear very much concerning the collector and the gains, that are supposed rightly or wrongly to spur him on. More should be heard about the collector who is interested in philately not so much for the opportunity for gain, even though it may be present, as for the charm and fascination of this pursuit—at once quiet and restful, uplifting and instructive, and ever assuring him the company of the earth's greatest and best.

Until this newer method of collecting arose, the great interest in stamps lay in possession. In some cases at least, the strife for a large collection became a mania, though frequently the scantiness of income prevented such a result. Under such conditions, is it any wonder that collecting lost some of its vital interest, and as largeness of possession seemed the goal, and a large fortune was necessary to reach it, interest lessened when money failed?

To the contrary, if we are to collect not only for the stamps themselves, not only for any financial value they may have for us, but more particularly for what they mean in history, geography and allied subjects, then the hobby, dormant in the soul, will be invested with a larger and deeper interest, and only then shall we see the development of a real and painstaking scholarship in philately.

OUR own first interest in stamps embraces a period of time so remote that we do not like to admit just how deeply it is buried in the past. But the ever increasing supply of gray hairs that the mirror reflects makes it difficult—yes, even futile—to deny, and so it seems that the first interest was awakened in 1888, and by 1892 we were going strong—succeeding in that year to the collection of an elder brother, to blossom out in the spring of 1899 as a full fledged professional.

Our first important transaction was the handling of the first and most famous collection formed by the late Wm. Thorne, Esq., of New York. In the distribution of this then world famous collection, the writer played an important part and gained a most valuable experience.

In 1899, the cost of the Thorne Collection, $45,000, bought a tremendous collection and probably would represent at today's prices more nearly $400,000 to $500,000.

Think of getting a used block of four of the twenty-four cent 1869 with centers inverted. This item I sold then for about $1500. One hesitates to suggest the value in the present market for such an unique piece!

In 1903 came the Ayer Collection, in many ways the only real Ferrari that America has ever produced. This wonderful collection was the source of most of the extraordinary collections that have been made and dispersed in the United States since. F. W. Ayer, Esq., of Bangor, Maine, had a taste for stamps far in advance of his time and there are few wonderful items in rare U. S. blocks gracing the collections of this country to-day which did not come originally from his treasure trove.

In the arranging and pricing of this great collection, representing as it must at today's valuation probably a

million dollars, we gained added experience of greatest possible value. Stamps that to-day are seldom seen were in this collection by the dozen. Then—a fillet head Mauritius sold for less than a hundred dollars while today a fine one costs five times as much and is very difficult to find.

The 1 franc vermilion of France 1849-50 was then less than forty dollars and today a really fine one—genuine—will cost from $500 to $1000, depending on the exact *nuance* and impression, and almost any price may be asked for the "Sedan" or "blood vermilion".

Times have changed. In those days sales in stamps in thousands were occurrences of great rarity. The largest single sale made from the Ayer Collection was to Mr. Geo. H. Worthington of Cleveland, who had first choice and took stamps amounting to $40,000. Up to this period this amount was the record for a single sale and the stamps comprising it would be worth at least ten times that amount today!

Think of a block of six 24c steel blue 1861, mint full o. g., for $60, and at that time Mr. Worthington complained that the prices were dear! I have since resold the same block (in 1921) for $1750. Today this block, of which but one other is known, would fetch a very considerable advance over the last sale. But regardless of rarity, there is always a fair price for any item and the one great essential that makes one man's judgment good as to values and another's poor is *experience.*

We must pass on from the Ayer Collection in this brief resumé of a few of our experiences. Let it suffice to say that except for the P. O. Mauritius, the wonderful Ayer Collection contained almost everything that a collector could demand, and in the breaking up of this great accumulation we gained, back there in 1903-04, valuable

experience through the actual handling of so marvelous a collection.

In 1907 we bought the Bowers Collection, involving just over $50,000. Although an American collection and naturally very strong in all U. S. issues, this collection was so strong in Australian issues that the New South Wales (Sydney Views, etc.) section won the silver medal at the London Exhibition of 1897. This was one of the best known collections of its day and much of its material was used in writing the "*Catalog for Advanced Collectors*".

The most famous country out of the Lombard Collection which we bought in 1910, was France, which won first prize in the Paris Exhibition of 1900. Mr. Lombard was one of America's early specialists and all of his collections were of very high rank.

In 1912 we bought the famous Deats Collection of U. S. Postmasters containing the famous Boscawen. Hiram E. Deats, Esq., was the foremost student of U. S. and Confederate Postmasters' stamps in America, and it was a great honor to have the handling of such a wonderful lot of all these issues, gathered by a connoisseur of first rank who knew intimately everything concerning these—the most interesting of all postage stamps.

The Boscawen was disposed of to Ferrari—the greatest collector of all time—through an exchange by which we secured the Rothschild copy of the 2d. P. O. Mauritius. As a result of this transaction we later secured from Ferrari the 1d., so that back in 1912 we had the pleasure and distinction of being the first American dealer to own the two Post Office Mauritius.

Our relations with Ferrari—or M. Philip Arnold La Renotiere, as he signed himself—became of increasing im-

portance and continued up to the very year of his death. We illustrate on the last page of this brochure the last cheque received from Ferrari, dated at Paris, August 28, 1915, although at that time he was living in Switzerland.

During the latter period of Ferrari's life, any rare United States stamps submitted to him on approval were sent to Boston for our examination and opinion, and one of the most highly prized letters in our files is one from Ferrari in 1914, which we reproduce on page 19 in this little brochure.

Much has been written of Ferrari, and as in the case of any great leader in any division there are many stories that have no basis in fact. The written word—now that this great nobleman is gone—must be our sole authority. Many were the stamps he bought, knowing full well that they were forgeries—but paid for nevertheless because the seller was an old connection and he felt that he was doing a charity. Acts of charity—nothing more, nothing less—and yet there are waspish individuals who received every courtesy from him in life, and being disappointed in not securing what *they* wanted from his collection now sneer at this great man's life work because of a few forgeries. Clear them all out—the charity remains—and also the most wonderful collection of stamps the world can ever hope to see. It realized about two millions of dollars in the fourteen sales necessary for its distribution. Long after the world has forgotten whether it was George the 3rd or George the 4th, the name of Ferrari will always recall to memory the world's greatest collector.

Denying himself many comforts unnecessarily, always generous and helpful to others, kindly to all. To those who really knew the man, his memory will ever be a blessing and an abiding place for Love.

THE year 1912 was truly an important one with *Colson of Boston.* Not only the Deats Postmasters and the P. O. Mauritius from Ferrari but of even greater importance, the magnificent unused treasures found in the Sussdorf Collection became our property. The story of the Sussdorff Collection has never been written. Some day, well—it may be. This collection contained only unused stamps—all gems of the first water.

In 1914 came a private arrangement with Geo. H. Worthington, Esq., of Cleveland, then the foremost collector in America. Under this arrangement we sold nearly $150,000 worth of the choicest stamps from his collection, including the finest of the U. S. Postmasters and the pick of several other countries.

The war displaced our philatelic activities seriously for a while, but in 1919, just one year after the armistice, the writer was in Berlin, remaining there for six weeks, and spending in all five months of that year in Europe. During this period our purchases amounted to over $75,000, and we secured among other great properties the German States Collection made by the Duke of ———, this being one of the very finest lots ever brought together.

Also in 1919 we bought the very fine European Collection formed by Thomas C. Jenkins, Esq., of Baltimore during the period when he was living in Paris.

Then in 1920 Mr. Jenkins sold us his fine collection of U. S.

Back in 1903 when the writer was a party to the purchase of the Ayer Collection for $70,000, Mr. Ayer retained his highly specialized lot of St. Louis stamps. Later these were sold to Geo. H. Worthington, Esq., for $30,000. In 1917 Mr. Jenkins bought this original Ayer lot of St. Louis, adding to them everything he could find

in the market until he had some seventy to eighty examples. These, together with the general issues, all passed by outright sale to us in 1920. Chief among the stamps in the general issues was the fine unused set of 1869 inverts—all three being unused. Also in the Jenkins Collection was the block of six 24c steel blue of 1861 and many other fine blocks.

Right on the heels of the Jenkins Collection came, in 1922, the U. S. collection of H. C. Gibson, Esq., of Philadelphia. No U. S. collection that has been sold since the Worthington Collection has approached in contents the Gibson Collection. Many of the rarest blocks were contained in it, as well as a wonderful lot of Postmasters, including the rarest of all U. S. stamps, the Blue Alexandria, which all the world now knows as the "Blue Boy". This stamp far surpasses in interest and value the Boscawen as we merely accept the Boscawen without any proof as to its standing, whereas the issue of the "Blue Boy" is corroborated by five similar examples printed on buff paper.

The fate of the Ferrari Collection is a matter of common knowledge. Left in his will to the Post Museum at Berlin, the French Government accordingly seized it as alien property and in due course, through fourteen sales, the collection was distributed by public auction in Paris. The writer attended in person the three most important sales from the American standpoint and became the world's largest professional buyer for one's own account from the Ferrari sales. During the sales where he was present in person his purchases amounted to over $100,000.

Our confidence in U. S. Postmaster issues as being the soundest stamps for all time is best evidenced by our purchasing most of them that were offered.

This short resumé covering some of the more important collections handled by us since 1899 gives some idea of the enormous volume of truly fine material which is continually passing through our hands.

We have chosen as a fitting representation of the stamps that serious collectors may secure at any time from *Colson of Boston*, fifty fine items which are at present in stock, for exhibition at the International Philatelic Exhibition in New York at the Grand Central Palace, October 16-23, 1926, and all that may be lawfully illustrated are presented herewith. These fifty choice pieces are shown under Rarities, Class VIIIa in the Exhibition. They are exhibited *hors concours*.

It is earnestly hoped that every visitor to the exhibition will examine them with care and take away with them pleasant memories concerning them—not failing to see Mr. Colson in person at booths 10 and 12, adjacent to the U. S. Government Exhibit.

All of the items exhibited and countless others of lesser calibre are for sale privately.

We accept full responsibility for the genuineness of every item sold, without limit of time.

Everything in our stock has been carefully selected by Mr. Colson himself, and the opportunity to buy from one whose experience has been so broad is the best possible assurance of the soundness of any purchase the amateur may make from us.

We are always buyers for cash of any fine items—collections, specialized or otherwise, and old correspondence containing stamps of any and all countries prior to 1900.

Address all communications to WARREN H. COLSON, 184 Boylston St., Boston, Massachusetts, U. S. A. Cable address: "*Warcolson, Boston.*"

[From the World's Greatest Collector of All Time — *Ferrari to Colson*]

Dear Sir,

Having these 3 first printing US 61 as duplicates, I herewith send them to you for an exchange, begging you will price them at a fair price, & I confidently rely on you, knowing how well you are acquainted with the value of stamps & how trustworthy you are. Could you send me the 12c of that issue that I have had but misplaced in some corner, & I cannot lay hands on it? I take with pleasure this opportunity of sending you my best regards & a friendly shake hands.

Yrs affly

Ph A L Renotiere

1/6 - 14

Dear Sir:

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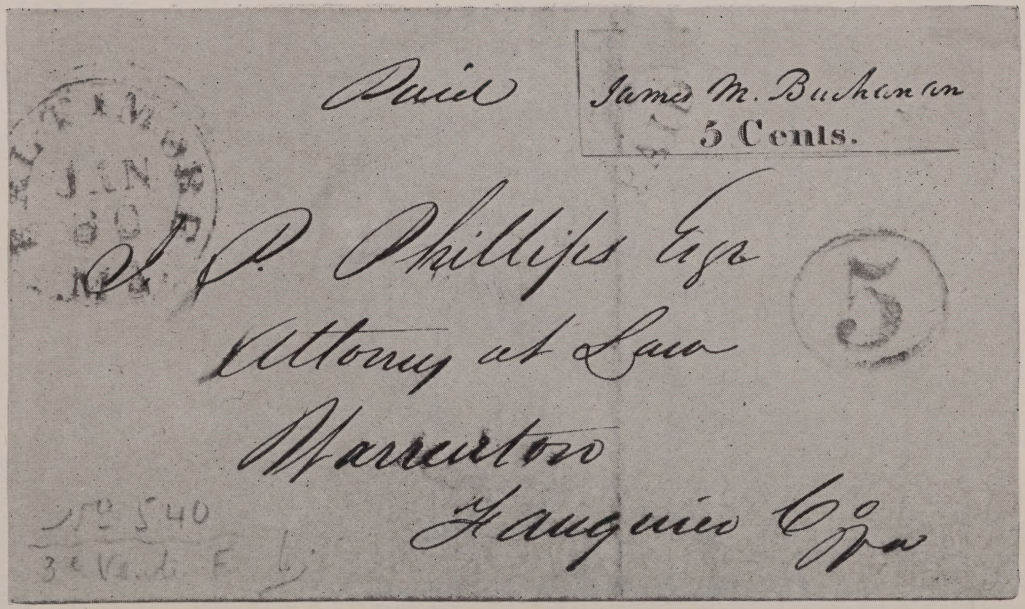
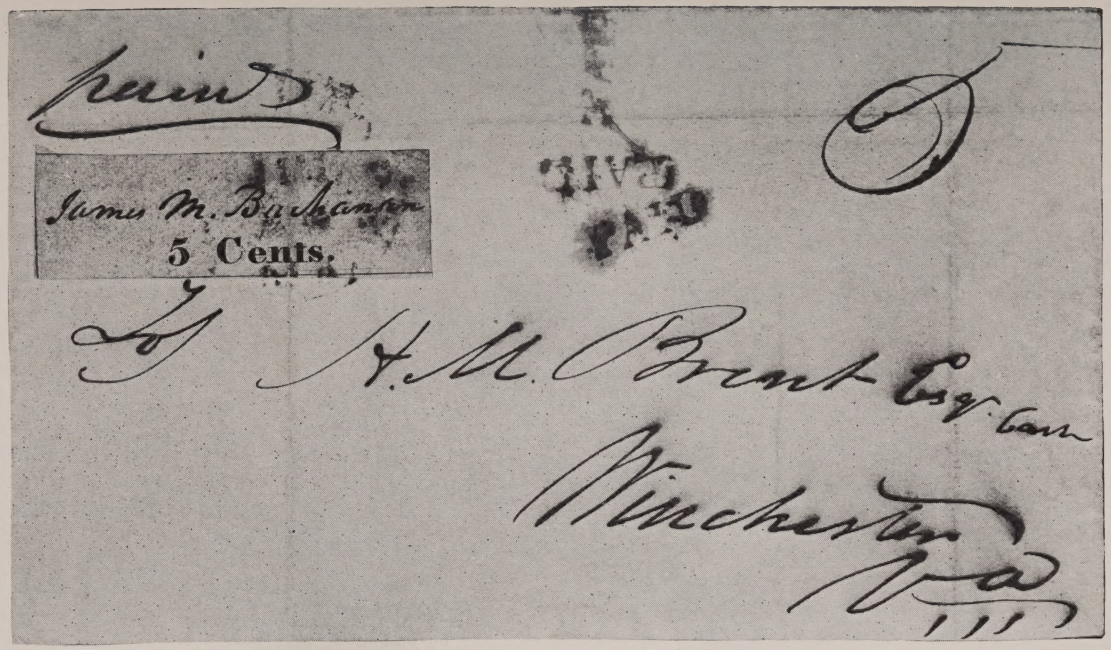
Yours affectionately,

PH. A. LA RENOTIERE.

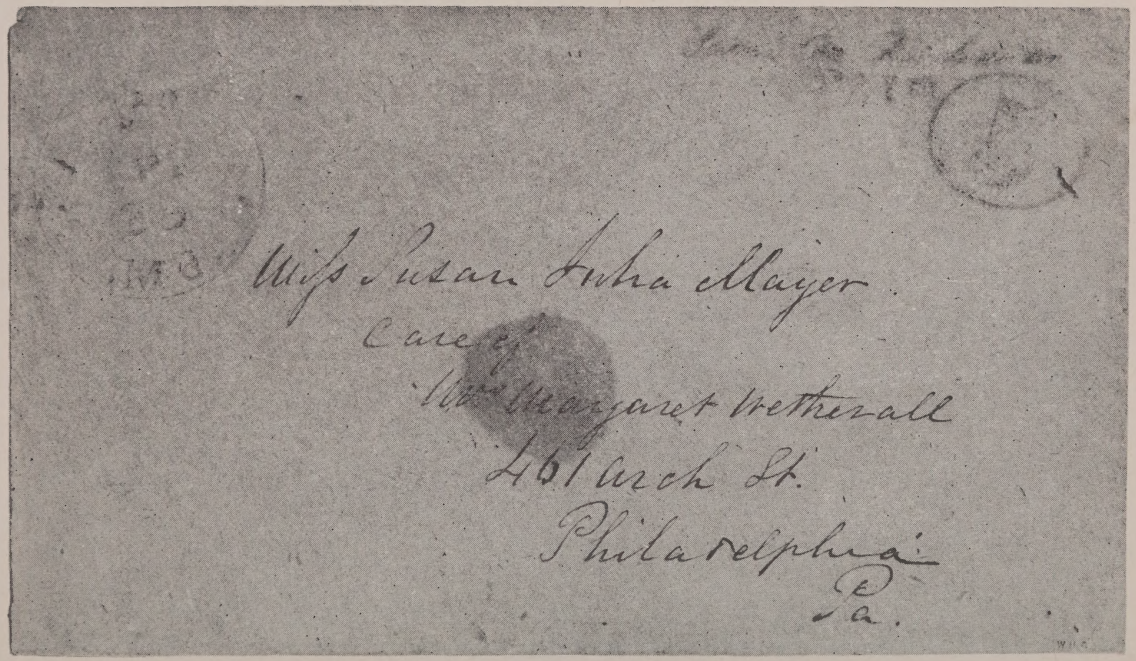
1/6/14.



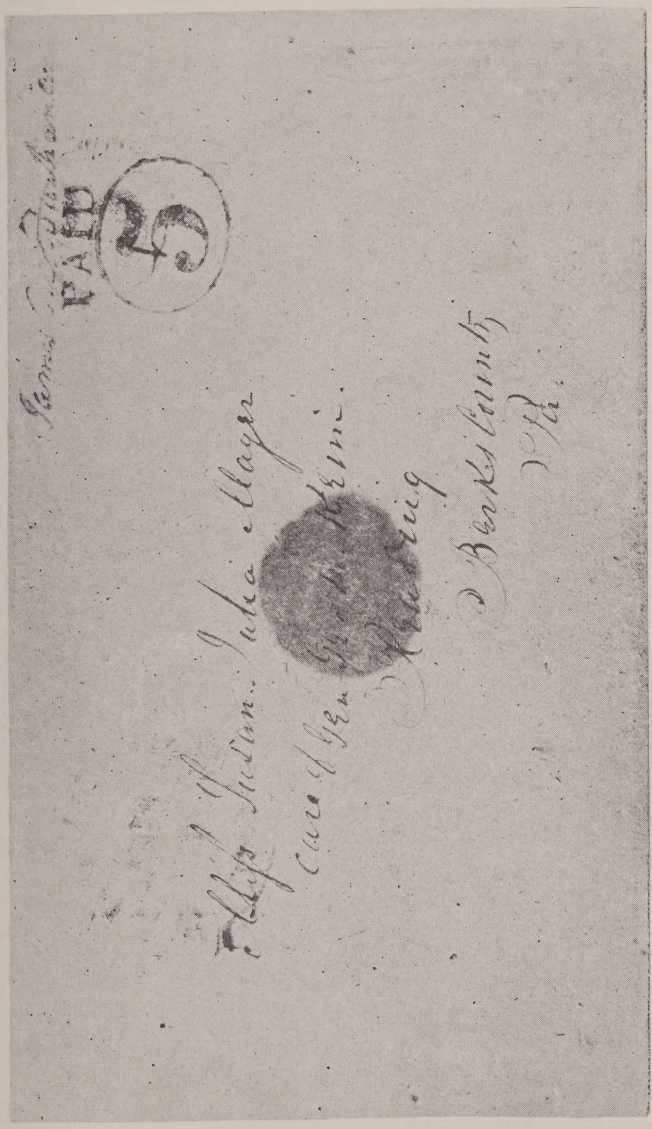
Baltimore, Maryland, 1845—5c on white paper



Baltimore, Maryland, 1845—5¢ on bluish paper



Baltimore, Maryland, 1845—5c red on buff paper envelope stamp



Baltimore, Maryland, 1845—5c blue on buff paper envelope stamp

Brattleboro, Vermont, 1846—5c black on thick buff paper. This example from the Ferrari Collection.

Millbury, Mass., 1846—5c black on bluish paper. This example from the Worthington Collection.

St. Louis, Missouri, 1845-1847

Plate I on greenish paper, complete. Plate III on pelure paper, complete

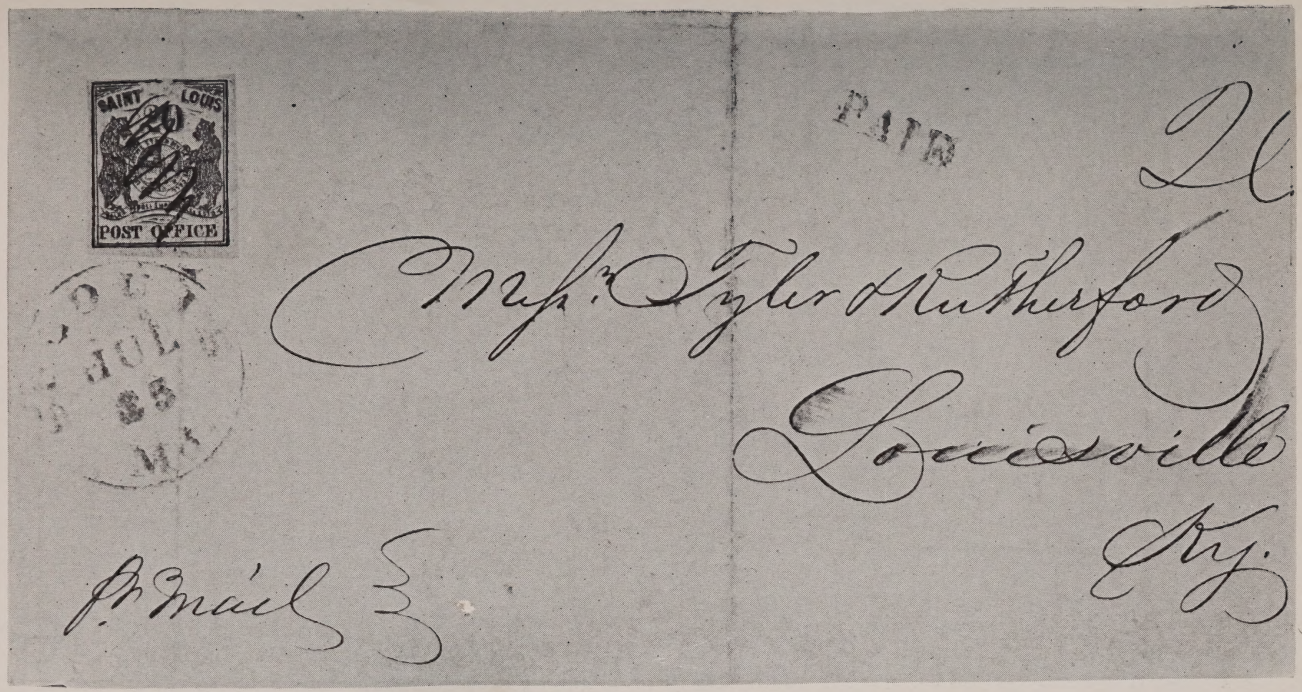
WE SHOW IN THE U. S. GENERAL ISSUES THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, WHICH IT IS NOT LAWFUL TO ILLUSTRATE:

1851, 1c blue horizontal strip of three type Ia used. This strip is printed in a very fine deep blue shade with large margin at the bottom, naturally enough as this type comes only from the bottom row of plate IV. It bears a beautiful town cancellation in black, "Potsdam, New York."

1861, 5c buff beautiful horizontal strip of three used on the full letter from New York to Rothenburg, Germany. This is postmarked with the usual New York red grid and is as handsome as any item of this kind we have ever seen.

Next we show the set of 1869 inverts, 15, 24 and 30 cents, in lightly postmarked condition.

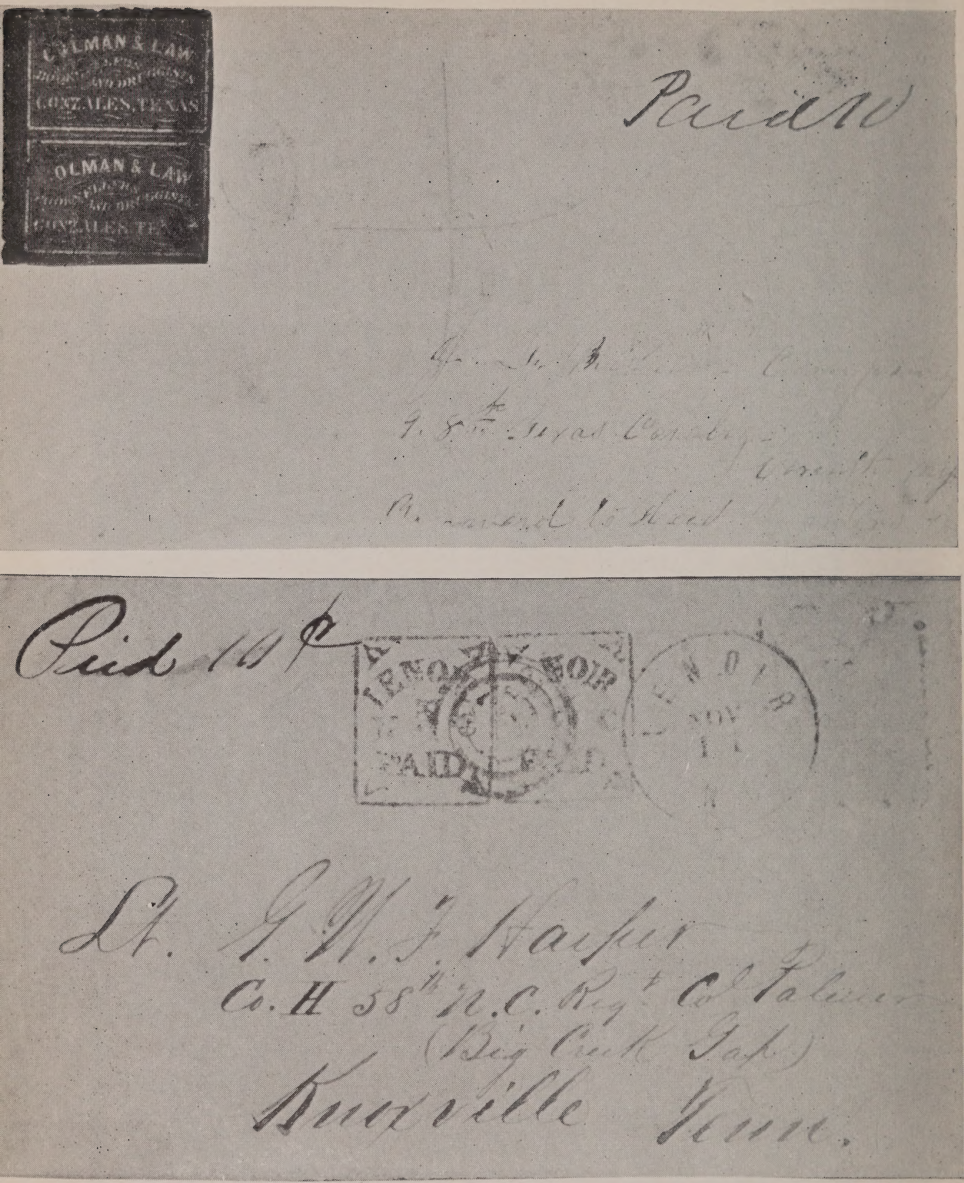
The '69 inverts are followed by the largest block of the 1c Pan American invert known, namely a block of twenty, beautifully centered and full o. g. and a most impressive piece today. The finest centered specimen of the 2c Pan American that we have ever seen follows.



St. Louis, Missouri, 1845-1847

Plate II 20c black on grayish paper, on full letter.

This item came originally from the "Louisville Find" made about 1895. The break in the center of this stamp—at the top—is not a defect but is a plate variety.



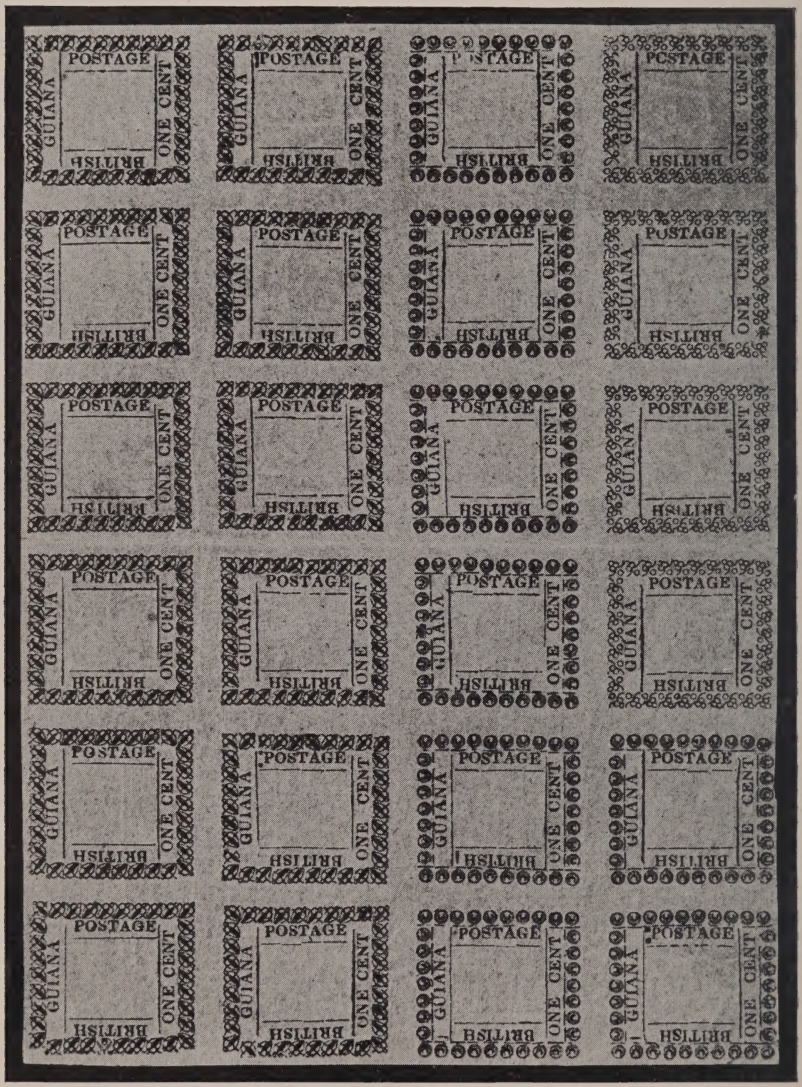
CONFEDERATE STATES POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS

These two items are from the Ferrari Collection and illustrate the finest of the three known pairs of Gonzales, Texas, very lightly postmarked on the letter and an hitherto unknown Confederate Provisional, a 10c envelope of Lenoir, North Carolina, made by applying the die from which the 5c adhesive stamp was made twice resulting in a 10c envelope stamp. This item is unique and of the greatest possible interest.

Buenos Aires 1859, 1 peso blue vertical tete beche pair used. But one other pair known and this is horizontal.

Bavaria 1874, 1 M imperf., block of 10 unused and mint. Probably unique.

Bavaria 1876, 1 M violet, wmkd. horizontal wavy lines, block of 4. The only block known.



British Guiana 1862, 1c rose sheet of 24 showing the complete setting.

France 1849-50, 20c black tete beche pair used on cover from Algiers, and also 1 fr. vermilion, same issue, used on the cover from Algiers. These two items are probably unique.

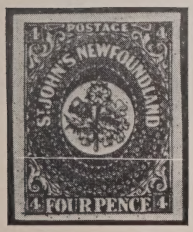
France 1862, re-issue, 1 fr. lake tete beche, unused o. g.

Germany, Thurn and Taxis, Southern District, 1851 3kr. blue, block of 15 unused o. g.

Great Britain 1878, wmkd. Maltese Cross 10 sh. slate and £1 brown lilac, both unused o. g.
Great Britain 1882-83, wmkd. Anchor, 10sh. slate and £1 brown lilac, both unused o. g.
Great Britain, 1882-85, wmkd. Crowns "I. R. Official," £1 brown violet, unused o. g.
Guadeloupe 1876, 40c blue postage due, used. Of greatest rarity.

Mauritius 1848, early impression 1d. orange on bluish paper.

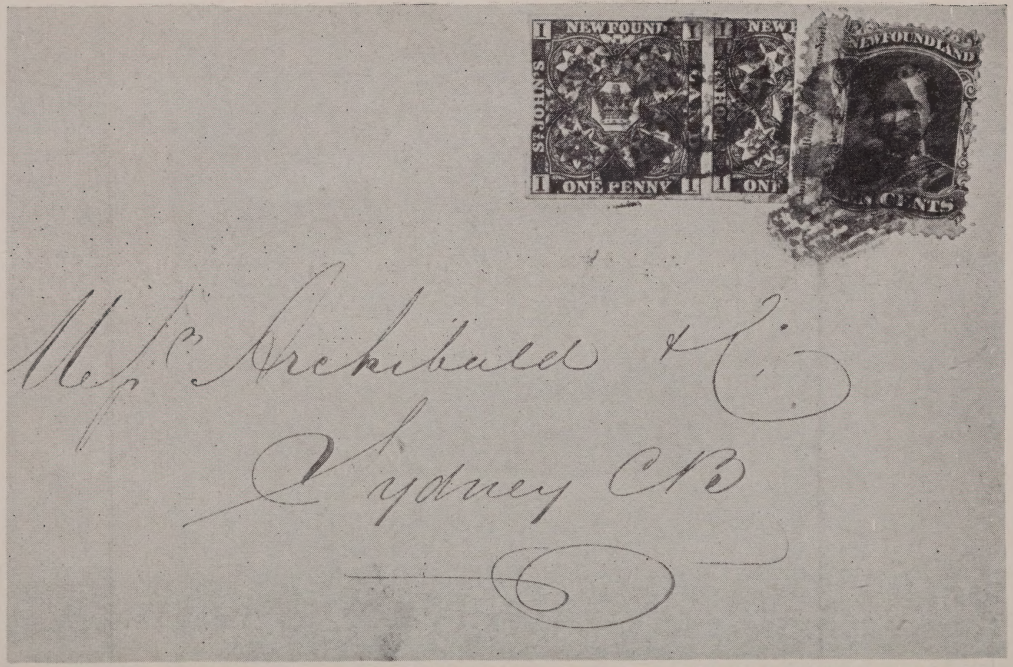
Mauritus 1848, early impression 2d. blue.



Natal 1869, 3d. blue "Postage" 12¾ mm., block of 12 unused o. g. Probably unique.

Newfoundland 1857, 4d. scarlet, unused. The finest we have ever seen.

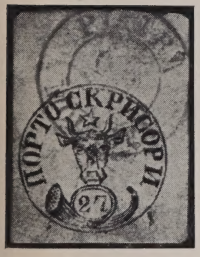
Newfoundland 1857, 1s. scarlet, unused.

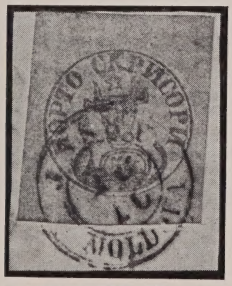


Newfoundland 1857, ½ of 1d. brown violet used with 1d. brown violet and 10c black of 1866 to make a 13c rate. This is the first time we have seen a bi-section of this stamp.

Saxony 1851, ½ng. on pale blue, error.
Very large example.
Spain 1851, 2r. red, unused. Brilliant.
Spain 1852, 2r. pale red, unused. Very bright color.
Spain 1853, 2r vermilion, unused. Brilliant.

Philippines 1855, 5c pale vermilion block of 4, unused, showing all four types.

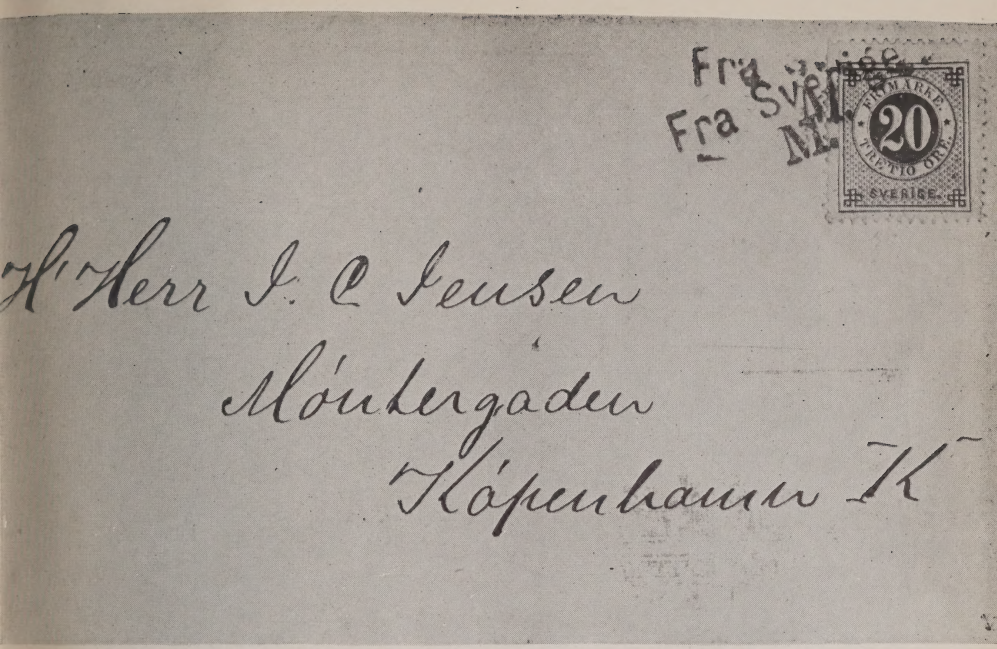




Roumania, Moldavia 1858, 27pa. on rose, used, with enormous margins.
Roumania, Moldavia 1858, 54pa. on green, used on small piece.
Roumania, Moldavia 1858, 81pa. on blue, not only postmarked but also with the word "Recepisse" struck across the top in blue.
Roumania, Moldavia 1858, 5pa. black on bluish paper, used.

Spain 1851, 5r. rose, block of 10 unused and full o. g. One of the finest pieces in any country in existence.

Spain 1855, Ir. blue, used block of 15 containing cliche of the 2r. A magnificent item.



Sweden 1877-79, tretio error used on cover with a postmark which undoubtedly makes this item unique.

Switzerland, 1843,
double Geneva used.

Switzerland, Zurich, 1843, 6r. black, horizontal lines, unused o. g. strip of 5 with position 3 retouched.
Turks Island 1881, 2½d. on 6d. gray black with small fraction.
Tuscany 1851, 2s. brick red, unused o. g.
Tuscany 1852, 60c brown red, unused o. g.
Tuscany 1860, 3 lire ochre, used.

Virgin Islands 1867-68, 1s. rose and black with central figure omitted. A world rarity.

Wurtemberg 1858, 18kr. dark blue, block of 4 used. A great rarity.

Wurtemberg 1865-68, 18kr. orange, block of 4 used. Another great rarity.

A. Iselin & Co. Bankers New-York

Please pay M. Colson or order the sum of two thousand dollars ($ 2,000)

Philip Arnold La Rénotière

Paris August 28/15

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